

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

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P R 242152Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1257

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 15345

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, HU, PINT

SUBJECT: MITTERAND VISIT TO HUNGARY

1. FRENCH PRESS REPORTS SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) FIRST SECRETARY MITTERAND LEFT MAY 24 FOR FOUR DAY VISIT TO BUDAPEST AT INVITATION HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY. MITTERAND IS ACCOMPANIED BY ROBERT PONTILLON, HIS CHIEF FOREIGN POLICY ASSISTANT, GASTON DEFERRE, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST GROUP IN THE PARLIAMENT AND MAYOR OF MARSEILLE, GEORGES SARRE, MEMBER OF THE PS EXECUTIVE BUREAU AND MRS. MITTERAND. AT THE AIRPORT MITTERAND SAID ONLY THAT THE VISIT IS ONE OF NORMAL
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CONTACTS PS HAS WITH PARTIES OF THE LEFT, INCLUDING

COMMUNIST PARTIES.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 21, PS INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT STAFFER NOTED THAT THE TRIP SOLVED ONE PRESSING MITTERRAND PROBLEM. THE PARTY'S LEFT WING (CERES) WHICH HAS RECENTLY SHOWN SIGNS OF MODERATING ITS MORE EXTREME POSITIONS HAS BEEN PLUGGING HARD FOR EXPANDED CONTACTS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. CERES HAS ALSO BEEN DEMANDING MORE PARTICIPATION IN THE PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. BY ACCEPTING THIS INVITATION FOR THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARTY'S EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS AT DIJON (MAY 15-16), MITTERRAND MAY HAVE BEEN HOLDING OUT A MILD PEACE OFFERING TO THE CERES. CERTAINLY THE FACT THAT GEORGES SARRE, ONE OF THE CERES' FOUNDERS, IS INCLUDED IN THE OFFICIAL PARTY IS AN INDICATION OF MITTERRAND'S CURRENT DESIRE TO KEEP THE CERES HAPPY.
GAMMON

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NNN

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To: STATE
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